

TEST RESULTS

How soon should a test-taker receive test results?

GED® test-takers should expect to access results at GED123.org in three working days. If the test-taker passes the tests, they will receive a diploma packet in the mail from the State GED office in approximately 7 working days from the examination date.

No Preferential Treatment

All GED answer sheets are handled as if a job or entry into school or the military depends on the results being obtained in a timely manner. Answer sheets are scored in batches by test date. There is no preferential treatment for a test-taker needing scores by a certain date.

What is the difference between standard and percentile scores?

Standard Score

Results for each content area are given as standard scores ranging from 200 to a maximum of 800 points. The minimum passing score for each content area is 410 points. The average standard score on all five content areas must be 450 for a total of 2250 points out of the possible 4000 points.

Percentile Score

The percentile rank shows the percentage of the graduating seniors who earned scores at or below those of the test-taker.

Passing Results

When a test-taker passes, they will receive a Kentucky diploma and an official transcript. A notice is included which reminds the graduate to store the transcript and diploma in a safe and accessible place since the documents will be needed for employment and educational purposes. The graduate is advised that they will have to pay a fee to receive duplicates copies of the transcript. The graduate also receives a congratulatory letter from the Governor. The letter encourages the graduate to consider postsecondary education and provides contact information for the Kentucky High Education Assistance Authority.

Non-passing Results

Test-takers that do not achieve passing results should return to the adult education program for further instruction. The test-taker must achieve higher OPT scores before returning to test.

Results

The test-taker may access their scores on GED123.org and print an eTranscript.

What is a passing score?

To earn a GED diploma a test-taker must meet two requirements:

1. Earn a minimum score of 410 on each of the five tests.

AND

2. Earn a total of 2250 points on the five tests (this is the same as an average score of 450 on each of the five tests).

Test results are expressed as standard scores ranging from 200 to 800.

If a test-taker fails the Language Arts, Writing test because of a failing essay, that information is provided on the transcript. Zero represents an inadequate essay or off-topic essay.

Sample Test Results

Example 1	Example 2	Example 3
Language Arts, Reading 430 Language Arts, Writing 440 Mathematics 410 Science 450 Social Studies 420 Total 2150 Results – Non Passing This person had at least a 410 on each test but did not have a total of 2250 points.	Language Arts, Reading 470 Language Arts, Writing 460 Mathematics 440 Science 520 Social Studies 430 Total 2320 Results – Passed This person had at least a 410 on each test and a total of over 2250 points.	Language Arts, Reading 480 Language Arts, Writing 400 Mathematics 400 Science 520 Social Studies 620 Total 2420 Results – Non Passing This person had the required 2250 total points but not a minimum of 410 on each test.

For a sample score report with interpretation of GED test results, please see [Appendix C](#).

SCORING THE GED ESSAY

GED test-takers have been required to write an essay as a part of the Language Arts, Writing Test since 1988. The essay represents approximately 35 percent of the total Language Arts, Writing test score.

Scores on the essay range from 1 (inadequate) to 4 (effective). The essay scoring guide is provided in [Appendix F](#).

The essay is graded at a national scoring center by readers certified by the GED Testing Service® (GEDTS). To maintain high reliability and consistency among readers, GEDTS provides clear standards against which readers and scoring sites are evaluated annually. Readers begin each grading session by reviewing these standards which include sample papers that demonstrate the acceptable range of each essay score.

Each essay is graded by at least two readers. Reader one reads the essay and gives it a score. Reader one masks the score so no other readers can see it. Reader two reads the essay and gives it a score. After both readers have given a score, the scores are unmasked. If Reader one and Reader two have given the same score, that is the score the essay receives. If Reader one and Reader two have given different scores, the essay is given to the Chief Reader. The score given by the Chief Reader and one of the original readers are averaged to give the final essay score.

Readers use the holistic scoring method. The overall effectiveness of the essay is evaluated without marking specific elements. The essay is considered draft writing so it is not expected to be perfect. Guidelines for holistic scoring are included in [Appendix F](#). Sample essays and scoring instructions are provided in the Examiner's Manual for the OPT.